

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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ORIGIN

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letter of 16 October 1978 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Secretary of the United States

1. The strongest union belonging to the Unity Trade Union (Einheitsgewerkschaft) in the Saar Territory is the Mine Workers Union, controlled by the Communists. Because of this, the Saar unions have been hesitant to openly favor the economic annexation of the Saar to France, in spite of French wishes to be able to present a clear recommendation from Saar labor groups to the Conference of Foreign Ministers in November 1947.
2. In an attempt to withdraw the workers (largely Catholic) from the influence of non-separatist elements, Governor Grandval informed Heinrich Wacker, president of the Unity Trade Union, on 25 July 1947 that the French government "in accordance with the desires of Christian workers in the Saar" would permit the formation of Christian Trade Unions. Grandval's political secretary informed Wacker, himself a separatist and member of MRS, that Bidault had personally intervened in favor of Christian Trade Unions in the Saar.
3. CDU members in the Unity Trade Union and Johannes Hoffman, chairman of the Saar CDU, have been agitating for such a move for a long time. Early in July, this group declared that if Christian Trade Unions were allowed, it would cease to support the Unity Trade Union.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

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DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

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